

## Security Quickie 6-21-02: Time for a Change

*To everything, (turn, turn, turn)  
There is a season, (turn, turn, turn)  
And a time to every purpose under Heaven\**

*A time to remove, a time to update,  
A time to delete, a time to install,  
A time to crash, a time to reboot,  
A time to change passwords for all...*

With the changing of the seasons comes this reminder - if you haven't changed your passwords recently, it is time to do so. Remember to use the following general password requirements:

- Use at least 8 characters
- Use a mix of uppercase letters, lowercase letters, numbers, and special characters
- Change it at least every 60 days
- Don't reuse passwords
- Don't write them down
- Use a "pass-phrase" if it helps you remember your password
  - "I want to sleep until 12 noon." can become "Iw2\$u12N."

Using good passwords and protecting them is something we all need to do to help protect both our own system and the state network.

\*Respects to the Byrds.

